

# Traffic Homicide and Records Section



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The Traffic Homicide and Records Section, headed by Captain J. M. Roddenberry, is the segment of the Florida Highway Patrol that is responsible for receiving, processing and permanent retention of traffic accident reports received from all law enforcement agencies throughout the state along with all documents relating to reports, arrest citations and accidents handled by the Patrol. This section serves as the traffic accident statistics information center for the state. During the year 1980, over 464,000 reports were received from traffic law enforcement agencies statewide and processed in this section.

An established fact is that accurate and adequate records serve as an indispensable tool in management. The Traffic Homicide and Records Section provides this basic tool in the form of records and data which is utilized for planning enforcement programs of the Florida Highway Patrol.

The effectiveness of the Department's traffic safety program is directly related to its quality of records. Also, an accurate and effective analytical foundation is required to evaluate existing and proposed highway safety programs, identify

problem areas, establish better safety systems and generation of improved programs and remedial measures.

The Traffic Homicide and Records Section provides the Director and his Staff and Troop Commanders with information to develop and implement effective selective enforcement programs which direct attention toward reducing traffic accidents.

This section also provides our troop safety officers, civic organizations, trucking companies, judiciary agencies, news media and the general public statistical information relative to traffic accidents. This service keeps the public informed of traffic accident problems within the state and it is the key to public support of the overall Florida Highway Patrol traffic safety program. Statistical information is also routinely sent to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Florida Bureau of Highway Traffic Safety and Florida Safety Organizations for assisting in development of additional statewide traffic safety programs.

In addition to compilation of traffic accident statistics, this section is responsible for analyzing and summarizing Florida Highway Patrol arrest information. This data provides a correlation of accident occurrence on the state highway system with the enforcement activity of the Patrol for analysis of the causes of accidents by location, time of day, day of week and the relationship to the selective enforcement being administered. This analysis is then used to maximize the effectiveness of patrol officers.

The Florida Highway Patrol Traffic Homicide and Records Section has 77 full-time employees and 10 part-time employees. This section is comprised of seven subsections: Accident Files, Accident Location, Coding (subsections - Screening and Evaluation), Photo Lab (subsection - Driver Licenses Negative File), Report Review, Statistical (subsection - Fatal Accident Reporting System) and Traffic Homicide.